

Headline: Closed Indiana Nursing School Student Records Now Available Online

INDIANAPOLIS (April 12, 2011) – A new database containing the names of over 16,000 students from closed state nursing schools were recently added to the nationally-recognized Indiana Digital Archives. Hoosier historians, genealogists or anyone else interested in Indiana's heritage can now utilize the Nursing School Student Records Database, which includes the names of graduates and those who withdrew from 1885 through 1988.

The Indiana State Board of Registration and Examination of Nurses was created in 1905 to accredit training schools and to examine and register qualified nurses. When a nursing school closed, the Board sometimes arranged for the transfer of student records to the Indiana State Archives. Names appearing in the Nursing School Database were compiled from the student records of eleven closed Indiana nursing schools and from lists of graduates appearing in school publications. The database includes the names of both graduates and students who enrolled but withdrew before completing the program. Students who withdrew are designated as having done so after the year they withdrew. Whenever possible, both the maiden name and married name of a student was entered into the database.

The Nursing School Student Records database along with several other popular Indiana State Archives collections can be viewed in their entirety online at www.digitalarchives.in.gov. Friends of the Indiana State Archives volunteers have been hard at work for nearly two decades assisting the State with making many of the state's records available. The Digital Archives enables Hoosiers and citizens worldwide to view the vast collection of historical and vital records housed at the State Archives.

Researchers should review the *Nursing School Student Records Database Reference Guide* on the following page for in-depth information about the content available within the database's records.

About the Indiana Digital Archives

The Indiana Digital Archives is operated by the State Archives Division of the Indiana Commission on Public Records. The result of a cooperative partnership made possible by a grant from the Library of Congress and administered by the Washington State Archives, the Digital Archives has nearly than 2.8 million searchable records online. Other partners include the states of Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Louisiana, Montana, Nevada, North Carolina, and Oregon. The Digital Archives was named a [2010 Best State Website](#) by "Family Tree Magazine."

About the Indiana State Archives

The [Indiana State Archives](#) collects records of historical value from all branches of Indiana state and local government, including governmental history, census and naturalization records for families, selected medical, military and criminal records, records of land ownership, maps, blueprints and photographs. Visit the [Collections Page](#) for a detailed listing of these resources, including links to online exhibits and electronic indices of select records.

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NURSING SCHOOL STUDENT RECORDS

DATABASE REFERENCE GUIDE



INDIANA STATE
DIGITAL ARCHIVES

- Because of federal and state confidentiality requirements, access to student records less than seventy-five years old requires the consent of the student or next-of-kin.
- If a student was listed as a graduate in a school publication, but no record was found, every effort was made to include this fact in the “Notes” field of the database.
- Data entry of records from the Ball Memorial Hospital (Home Hospital) School for Nurses in Muncie and the Muncie School of Practical Nursing is still in progress. Names of students from these schools are not presently included in this online database. Researchers may contact the State Archives for information about students who attended these two schools.
- Records from other closed nursing schools are still in the custody of affiliated hospitals or were transferred to local school districts to maintain.
- Student records from the following closed nursing schools are found in this database:
 - **Bloomington Hospital School of Nursing**, Bloomington, Ind. Opened in 1906 as the Bloomington Hospital Nurses’ Training School. Closed in 1946.
 - **Elkhart General Hospital School for Nurses**, Elkhart, Ind. Opened in 1899 as Clark Hospital Training School. Name changed to Elkhart General Hospital Training School for Nurses before 1913. Closed in 1933.
 - **Good Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing**, Vincennes, Ind. Opened in 1908. Closed in 1959.
 - **Holy Cross Central School of Nursing**, South Bend, Ind. Formed in 1950 by merger with three other nursing schools operated by the Sisters of the Holy Cross and with St. Joseph’s Hospital School of Nursing. Named changed in 1969 to Holy Cross School of Nursing. Closed in 1975.
 - **Indiana Christian Hospital School of Nursing**, Indianapolis, Ind. Opened in 1899 as the Protestant Deaconess Hospital School for Nurses. Name changed in 1925 to Indiana Christian Hospital School of Nursing. Closed in 1932.
 - **Laura A. Kindig School of Nursing**, Goshen, Ind. Opened in 1909 as the Goshen Hospital Training School for Nurses. Name changed in 1921 to Laura A. Kindig Seminary for Nurses. Closed in 1938.
 - **Memorial Hospital School of Nursing**, South Bend, Ind. Opened in 1894 as Epworth Hospital and Training School. Changed to Memorial in 1945. Closed in 1988.
 - **Saint Joseph’s Hospital School of Nursing**, South Bend, Ind. Opened in 1907. Merged in 1950 to form Holy Cross Central School of Nursing. Last class graduated in 1952.
 - **Union Hospital School of Nursing**, Terre Haute, Ind. Opened in 1900 as the Union Hospital Training School for Nurses. Later known as Union Hospital School of Nursing. Closed in 1965.
 - **Welborn Memorial Baptist Hospital School of Nursing**, Evansville, Ind. Opened in 1914 as the Walker Hospital Training School for Nurses. Changed in 1932 to Welborn-Walker Hospital School of Nursing. Changed again in 1944 to Welborn Memorial Baptist School of Nursing. Closed in 1955.
 - **Wishard Hospital School of Nursing**, Indianapolis, Ind. Opened in 1883 as Flower Mission Training School for Nurses. Name changed to Indianapolis City Hospital Training School for Nurses by 1897. Changed in 1947 to Indianapolis General Hospital School of Nursing. Changed in 1959 to Marion Co. General Hospital School of Nursing. Changed in 1975 to Wishard Memorial Hospital School of Nursing. Closed in 1980.